Teachers continue to upgrade knowledge

Persons who enter the field of education continue to improve their teaching, administrative or supervisory skills by enrolling in college level classes, attending workshops and conferences, and attending inservice meetings locally, regionally and statewide.

Anyone entering the teaching profession must hold a Bachelors Degree which is awarded after completion of four years of college preparation in a teacher training program. The State Board of Education issues teaching certificates to those who qualify. These certificates must be renewed at five year intervals. The credits for certificate renewal are earned either on college campuses during the summer or through extension classes conducted in the county each semester and during the summer. The majority of classes held in Appomattox County are offered through the University of Virginia, with selected classes from Lynchburg College, Longwood College, and VPI being provided as the need indicates.

In service sessions are planned both on a county-wide level and individual school level. A survey of teachers and principals is used to determine the areas in which inservice is needed. Teachers serve as department chairmen and plan three countywide sessions annually. Principals prepare a calendar of inservice activities for each of their schools. School Board Office personnel plan inservice for the total staff. Resource persons to conduct these sessions are available from the State Department of Education, colleges, textbook companies and other school divisions. Inservice workshops such as these, provide opportunities for eductors to improve in their teaching procedures and to stay informed of improved techniques.

Annually the State Department of Education plans conferences for classroom teacher and administrators in each of the following areas: Reading, Mathematics, Foreign Language, Physical and Health Education, Testing, Art, Kindergarten, Science, Social Studies, Driver Education, and Vocational Education. Basic Learning Skills have been the topic of Standards of Learning to begin in the fall of 1982, will receive attention at meetings to be scheduled. Appomattox County is represented at all of these meetngs. The participants then report to fellow teachers in their schools.

School personnel serve on state committees upon invitation and lead in state workshop meetings. Committees are set up locally to study areas of the school program and to make suggestions for improvement. Each of these experiences serves to make the educator more competent.

Numerous meetings are held during the period of textbook adoptions. Committee members review curriculum guides to become thoroughly familiar with the content to assure that the chosen textbooks meet the recognized needs of the county. To assist in this undertaking, State Department of Education personnel work with the staff prior to the adoption period to identify needs. Textbook representatives make presentations to the committees, whose members in turn meet with fellow teachers before recommendations are made to the School Board for their approval.

Curriculum guides are developed in the county to supplement those which are developed and distributed by the State Department of Education. These guides are valuable to teachers to assure that there is consistency in the instructional program. Teachers and administrators serve on committees to develop these and to revise them at regular intervals.

In addition to the required Bachelors Degree the Masters Degree is held by forty-five members of the teaching staff. This degree represents thirty to thirty-six semester hours work beyond the initial degree. Usually this is earned through attendance at summer school sessions and night classes during the regular school session.

Teachers, administrators, and supervisors recognize that the profession requires pursuing on-going educational opportunities and lifetime involvement in learning. Initial training received prior to entering a teaching career is only the beginning for many more classes, conferences, workshops and meetings which are necessary for competency in the field of education.

Drug education noted

The Appomattox County School Board has responsibility for an effective program of drug education for Appomattox County students. To achieve this goal, the school system needs the services and assistance of agencies and parents.

At a recent meeting which included representatives of various agencies and school personnel, the Drug Education Program was evaluated and recommendations were received to be considered in future plans. In addition to school personnel, Jeane Bentley, State Department of Education; Ricky Baldwin, local Sheriff's Department; Sam Kerr, Commonwealth Attorney; and J. S. Foxwell, Virginia State Police, were present to share information and to make recommendations.

Miss Bentley stated that the use of some drugs seems to be on the decline in Virginia. However, the use of alcohol by students has increased.

J. S. Foxwell agreed with Jeane Bentley. He also stated that drug education is a community responsibility. "Parents need to know about drugs," he said. When parents work closely with their children, give constructive supervision and help them feel good about themselves, drugs become less of a problem.

Representatives from Appomattox Middle School and Appomattox County High School reviewed the drug education curriculum provided for students in these grades. The program is very comprehensive and is designed to give students the knowledge and understanding to develop into responsible citizens. The program focuses on helping the individual to understand himself, to establish realistic goals to achieve, and to practice sound habits of personal health.

As a result of recommendations made by this committee of representatives from various agencies the school system will focus its attention toward planning and implementing activities to update school personnel on drugs, to involve parents in programs to enlighten them regarding effective ways to work with their children, to involve community agencies and adults in all aspects of the program, and to continue to provide an effective drug education program to the students, in the county, grades K - 12.

Keep Up With Local Happenings Read The Times-Virginian

ASCS Today: new program outlined

By TOM CONRAD

Reduced acreage program announced for 1982 feed grains - Secretary of Agriculture John R. Block recently announced a voluntary 10 percent reduced acreage program for 1982-crop feed grains. He also announced that 1982 feed grains may be entered immediately into the farmer-owned reserve.

"This action will strengthen feed grain prices by reducing supplies for the 1982-83 marketing year," Block said. Participants will be required to devote the reduced acreage to conservation uses, he said.

Block said a number of market factors, including the record 1981 U. S. corn harvest of 8.2 billion bushels and instability in the export market, make the reduced acreage program advisable. Feed grain supplies are about 13 percent above last year. Corn carryover at the beginning of the next marketing year (Oct. 1, 1982) could be around 2 billion bushels, the largest since 1960.

Only those who participate will be eligible for program benefits such as target price protection and Commodity Credit Corporation commodity loans.

Participating farmers must reduce their acreage planted to feed grains (barley, corn, oats, sorghum) by at least 10 percent from the established feed grain bases. Two bases will be established – one for corn and sorghum, the second for barley and oats. Generally, the bases will be the higher of the 1981 base acreage or the average of the 1980-81 base acreages. However, for farms that have been following a definite rotation pattern, the bases will reflect such rotations.

Participating producers will receive the following target price (per bushel) protection: corn, $2.70; sorghum, $2.60; barley, $2.60; oats, $1.50. Participants will be eligible for the following CCC loan rates; corn, $2.55; sorghum, $2.42; barley, $2.08; oats, $1.31.

Here is an example of how the programs will work. A farmer with a base of 100 acres must plant no more than 90 acres of feed grains for 1982 harvest. The 10 acres reduced (11.11 percent of 90 acres) must be devoted to a conservation use. Farmers planting less than the full 90 acres to feed grains would be permitted to devote fewer acres to conservation. If only 50 acres were planted, only 5.55 acres (11.11 percent of 50) would have to go to conservation.

The land taken from production and devoted to conservation uses must be eligible cropland and protected from wind and water erosion. The land may not be mechanically harvested. Farmers will be permitted to graze this acreage, except during the six principal growing months.

Neither offsetting compliance nor cross compliance is a requirement under this program. This means that farmers owning or operating more than one farm will not be required to participate on all farms in order to obtain program benefits on participating farms. Also, participation in the feed grain program is not required to qualify for programs benefits on other crops grown on the farm.

Block said that 1982 feed grain placed under CCC loan would be eligible for immediate entry into the farmer-owned grain reserve at loan levels higher than for regular CCC loans. The reserve loan rates per bushel will be: corn, $2.90; sorghum, $2.75; barley, $2.37; oats, $1.49. Market price trigger levels at which farmers may take their grain out of the reserve without penalty will be: corn, $3.25; sorghum, $3.10; barley, $2.65; oats, $1.65.

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Raiders play 3 close contests

Appomattox's varsity Raider basketball team played three very close basketball games last week, including two which went into overtime. But the Raiders were on the short end of Lady Luck's stick, losing Wednesday night to Gretna, and again Friday night to Buckingham.

Tuesday night's game against Liberty, however, was a different story. The Raiders fought back a determined Liberty squad through two overtime periods to record the win, 59-53.

The Raiders opened an early lead in the game and led at the end of the first quarter, 16-13. In the second quarter, Liberty battled back, and led as the buzzer sounded ending the first half, 24-23.

In the third quarter, the Raiders regained the lead, 35-32 at the end of the period. But Liberty stormed back, and the game went into overtime.

Both teams scored a pair of points in the first overtime period. In the second period, Rick Caldwell came through with a jump shot and followed it up with four free throws to ice the game for Appomattox.

"Caldwell and Ron Carter both came through for us when we needed it," said Coach Coty Dickerson after the game.

Carter and Caldwell led Raider scorers with 16 points each. Jeff Miller scored ten, Kim Humbles nine points, and Dennis Fleshman, Jody Williams, Greg Mayberry and Bobby Carter all scored two points for the Raiders.

The following night, the Raiders traveled to Gretna to face the powerful Hawks, in a contest which the Raiders lost in overtime, 58-56.

The Raiders dominated through the early parts of the game, leading 32-28 at the end of the first half, and 47-39 at the end of the third quarter.

In the final period of regulation time, however, the Hawks fought back and tied the game at 54-54 when the fourth quarter ended.

The teams fought evenly in the overtime period, and it looked as if the game would go into a second overtime when Gretna's Glen Coleman hit a jump shot with less than a second to play, to give the Hawks a 58-56 victory.

"It was one of the better games we've played this year," Dickerson said after the contest. He noted that the Hawks were aided by the return of Jerry Davis, last year's district player of the year. Davis hit 10 of 16 shots from the floor against the Raiders.

The Raiders, who led the game until the waning moments of the fourth quarter, got big performances from Jeff Miller, Kim Humbles and Ron Carter, with 19, 19 and 12 points, respectively. Rick Caldwell and Bobby Carter, with four and two points, respectively, rounded out Raider scoring against Gretna.

"Caldwell and Humbles did an excellent job of handling the ball," said Dickerson. "The whole team played a fine game... we just had a few breaks go against us at the end of the game."

The pace of Friday's Buckingham game stood in stark contrast to the rapid-fire of the Gretna contest. Buckingham sought to slow down the game and thwart the Raider offense, and it succeeded, albeit by a narrow margin, 39-38.

Buckingham maintained a narrow lead throughout the game, leading 10-6 at the end of the first quarter, 20-15 at the end of the first half, 28-29 at the end of the third quarter, and 39-38 at game's end.

"Buckingham did a good job of playing a slow-down game," Dickerson noted. "We were down by as much as seven points in the fourth quarter, but we fought back.....we made some good shots that just wouldn't fall," Dickerson noted.

The coach noted that both the Gretna and Buckingham games, while disappointing as losses, nonetheless served as excellent educational experiences for the team. "When tournament time gets here, we will have been through a good slow-down game and a good fast-paced game," the coach noted.

The Raiders had to forfeit a 71-41 victory over Brookville due to a player ineligibility problem, and stood with a 10-6 district record at the end of last week. Tuesday night, the Raiders were scheduled to play Rustburg, and Friday, the Raiders will travel to Buckingham for the regular-season finale. The Seminole District tournament begins next Tuesday (Feb. 23) at E. C. Glass High School in Lynchburg.

Times-Virginian **Sports**

Carter's Shot

RAIDER RON CARTER GOES UP for two in Friday night's close contest with Buckingham. The Knights were successful in slowing down the game to the point where the Raiders' offense was thwarted. (Photo by Mike Williams)

Volleyball

Girls drop Altavista

By TAMBRA HAMLET

On Thursday, Feb. 11, the Raiderette volleyball team traveled to Altavista to play a district game. They came away with a 15-10, 15-6, 15-11 win over the Altavista team.

Top scorers for the game were Ruby Smith with 16 points, 6 coming on serves, and Angie Moore with 9 points.

Other scorers were Rhonda Jaggars with 5 serving points and Suzan Eye with 3 spikes that were not returned.

Patty Roach had 9 sets while Angie Murray had 10 to lead the Raiderette spikers to a good game.

With this win the Raiderettes improved their record to 4-1 within the Seminole District.

On Thursday the Raiderettes will meet Brookville in the Appomattox County High School gym at 7:00. Friday the Raiderettes will travel to Gretna to make-up a game missed because of snow. This game will start at 4:30.

Wrestling match set

The ACHS Athletic Boosters Club will again sponsor a professional wrestling match on March 2 at the ACHS gymnasium.

The following wrestlers will appear: Blackjack Mulligan, Jr., Sgt. Slaughter, Ricky Steamboat, Austin Idle, Jay Youngblood, Ninga, and many more well known stars of the professional wrestling ring.

Tickets to this benefit event may be purchased at Appomattox Truck and Tractor, Appomattox Drug Store, or from any member of the Athletic Boosters Club.

Jump-for-heart benefit slated

On February 20 from 9:00 - 12:00 at the Appomattox County High School gym, students will be participating in the "Jump Rope For Heart" event sponsored by the American Heart Association.

Approximately 30-35 students will be jumping to raise money for the American Heart Association.

Students raising the most money will receive prizes of warm-up suits and wind-breakers.

All participants receive a T-shirt and certificate of participation.

Concord football tickets due in

Any persons holding tickets for the Concord Little League Football Association's Feb. 23 fundraiser drawing please return the tickets and money to Gary Compton or Doug Perrow by Feb. 22.

Money and tickets may be turned in to Gary Compton at the Concord Service Center.

Mr. Compton, general manager of the association, extends his thanks to those who have helped in this fundraising activity.

Jayvees win 2

The Raider jayvee basketball squad defeated Liberty and Buckingham, but fell to a powerful Gretna team in basketball action last week.

Ricky Miller led Raider scorers Tuesday against Liberty, in a game which Appomattox won by a narrow margin, 56-53.

The Raiders and Liberty played even in the first period, which ended in a tie, 10-10. In the second period, the Raiders gained a slight advantage and led 28-22 when the first half ended.

Liberty made up lost ground in the third period, which ended with the teams in a 42-42 deadlock. In the final period, however, the Raiders rallied late and made off with the victory, a 56-53 decision.

"We were a little flat," said Coach John Pettyjohn after the game. "Liberty played with a lot of hustle; they were tough." The coach cited the defensive efforts of Louis Preston as outstanding in the Liberty game. Preston, with his defensive play, added 12 points to the Raiders' offensive effort. Others scoring for Appomattox against Liberty were Todd Scruggs and Tyrone Abbitt, each with 11 points, and Gary Ferguson, with four points.

Wednesday's game against Gretna was a different story for the Raiders, who fell behind early and spent the best part of the game playing catch-up. The Appomattox squad's efforts were futile, however, and the Raiders left the contest with their second defeat of this season, a 69-61 loss.

Gretna exploded into the lead in the first quarter, scoring 21 points to the Raiders' 10. Appomattox fought back hard in the second period, however, and came to within four points of the Hawks' lead as the first half ended, with Gretna leading 40-36.

Gretna extended its lead in the third period however, on solid shooting and good defense. In the final period, the Raiders continued to struggle against the solid Gretna team, but to no avail, and the game ended in a 69-61 victory of the Hawks.

Pettyjohn added that Ricky Miller played a fine game defensively against Gretna, with several blocked shots during the game.

Four Raiders scored in double figures against Gretna; Tyrone Abbitt with 18 points, Ricky Miller and Gary Ferguson with 13 each, and Todd Scruggs with 10 points. Louis Preston added seven to round out the Raiders' scoring.

The Raiders faced and eventually overcame a slow-down game in Friday night's contest against Buckingham. Final score in the game was Raiders 57, Buckingham 28.

The slow-down tactics worked for Buckingham in the first quarter, which found Buckingham in the lead 8-5 when the buzzer sounded ending the period.

The Raiders adjusted to the slow-down game in the second period, however, and had gained a 17-13 advantage by the time the half ended. In the third period, the Raiders opened the game up, scoring 18 points to Buckingham's eight.

Gary Ferguson, Tyrone Abbitt and Louis Preston all scored in double figures for the Raiders, with 15, 12 and 10 points, respectively.

John Hurt had five points; Ricky Miller, Kinckle Robinson and Todd Scruggs each had four points; Mike Jackson had two points and Steve Hamlett had a point to complete the Raiders' scoring against Buckingham.

Pettyjohn commended the play of Gary Ferguson on defense as instrumental in breaking the slow-down rhythm. "He made a couple of key steals to disrupt their slow-down game," commented the coach.

Pettyjohn also commended the play of the substitutes against Buckingham.

The Raiders were scheduled to face off against Rustburg Tuesday night after the **Times-Virginian** deadline. Friday the Raiders will travel to Buckingham for the final junior varsity game of this season.

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